Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

MAY 23.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Thirty-seven members present.

A paper entitled "Further Notes on Inclusion in Gems, etc.," by Isaac Lea, was presented for publication.

Remarks on Fossils of the Ashley Phosphate Beds.—Prof. LEIDY observed, in continuation of his remarks of the previous meeting, on the extinct animals of the Ashley phosphate beds of South Carolina, that they are remarkable for the multitude of remains they contain of fishes, especially of sharks and rays. Among the former were the giants of their kind, the *Carcharadon megalodon* and *C. angustidens.* A tooth exhibited of the megalodon shark is 5½ inches long and 4½ inches broad at the base. The living white shark, pertaining to the same genus, reaches upwards of 35 feet in length and has teeth 2 inches in length. Supposing the megalodon shark to have reached the same proportions in relation with the size of the fossil teeth, it must have exceeded 70 feet in length, and must have proved the most formidable monster of the ancient ocean.

Another specimen, presented for the inspection of the members, is a knob of bone, such as is found at the root of the tail of the devil-fish, the largest of the existing rays. In the latter, the bone is the only one of the body, and it supports a minute spine, a mere rudiment of the barbed weapon of the sting-ray. Our devil-fish, of which a specimen was once exhibited in Peale's Museum of this city, reaches a breadth of 18 feet with the length about 15 feet. The fossil-bone, though the only thing left to tell the tale of its former possessor, is quite a characteristic specimen. It is of more robust proportions than that of its living representative, and probably indicates an extinct species for which the name of *Ceratoptera unios* was proposed.

Specimens exhibited of the dental armature of the roof and floor of the mouth of eagle-rays were referred to extinct species under the names of *Myliobates magister* and *M. mordax*, the former having been one of the largest of its kind. Similar specimens from the eocene marl beds of Monmouth and Burlington Counties, New Jersey, were refered to species with the names of *Myliobates fastigiatus* and *M. jugosus.*

Prof. Leidy further directed attention to a specimen of the snout of an extinct cetacean, which he had recently observed among some fossils from the Ashley beds in the Smithsonian collection of the Government Department of the Centennial Exposition, and which had been obligingly loaned to him for description by Mr.

W. P. Blake. The specimen, $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length, had the density of ivory, and indicated one of the largest of the little known family of the ziphioid whales. It was referred to a new genus and species with the name of *Proroziphius macrops.*

The other fossils are of the giant sloth, the Megatherium, presented by Mr. George T. Lewis, of this city. These were also found in the Ashley deposits, and are probably the remains of animals which became mired in marshes after the elevation of the Ashley deposits above the ocean level.

Two New Minerals.—Prof. J. LAWRENCE SMITH exhibited specimens of two new minerals. The first is a mammillary coating on the columbic acid minerals from North Carolina. It is white and soft, being a hydrate columbate of yttria with about 15 per cent. of water. Sufficient of the mineral has not been obtained, in a state of purity for a thorough analysis, but there is every prospect that there will be. It is readily found on many of the specimens of Samarskite and Euxenite (which last mineral Prof. Smith has discovered to be a constant associate of Samarskite). No name has yet been given to the mineral, as Prof. Smith prefers to complete the analysis before giving it a name.

He also gave some little historical account of the columbic acid minerals.

Another species for which the name *Daubrēlite* is proposed is an interesting mineral recently discovered by Prof. Smith on the nodule of Troilite existing on the Cohahuida meteoric irons that he has been examining. It is a sulphuret of chromium, is a black shining mineral, with a perfect cleavage in one direction, giving a black powder soluble in nitric acid which solution is of an intense chrome green—and is found to contain sulphuric acid, oxide of chromium, and a little oxide of iron, which last Prof. Smith supposes to come from some Troilite not perfectly separated from the Daubrēlite—as this mineral is found on almost all the nodules of Troilite in that iron.

MAY 30.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the Chair.

Thirty-eight members present.

Chapters XII., XIII., XIV., and XV. of the Amended By-Laws were adopted.

Article 1, Chap. VIII., was amended by adding after the words "thirteen professors:" "Who shall be appointed and superseded or dismissed only by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the whole Council."